What is claimed is:

- 1. A chromatographic separation process comprising passing a biomass product through a separation column having at least one chemically active capture element having flow channels of  $50\mu$  or greater, whereby at least a portion of a desired component of said fermentation product is captured by said capture element.
- 2. The chromatographic separation process as defined in Claim 1 wherein said biomass product comprises a fermentation broth which includes components which are the products of recombinant DNA processes.
- 3. The chromatographic separation process as defined in Claim 1 wherein said separation column includes a plurality of said capture elements, whereby each said capture element captures a portion of the same component of said mixture.
- 4. The chromatographic separation process as defined in Claim1 wherein said capture element has flow channels of about  $75\mu$  or greater.
- 5. The chromatographic separation process as defined in Claim 1 wherein said capture element has flow channels of about 100µ or greater.
- 6. The chromatographic separation process as defined in Claim 1 wherein said capture element is sintered steel.